




pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMO

TO Wild Resource Conservation Fund Board

FROM Richard J. Allan
Secretary 

DATE March 26, 2012

RE Wild Resource Conservation Fund – Increased Match

As part of our ongoing evaluation of the Wild Resource Conservation Fund (WRCF), we looked across DCNR as an agency and have come to the decision that the current match requirement for these grants, i.e., 10%, is very low and will not provide the WRCF with the ability to maximize the leveraging ability of funds allocated to this program. We also discovered that the matching requirements for State Wildlife Grants (SWG), administered by the PGC and PAFB, have ranged over the years from 25% to 50%. Frequently, these grants are used to match WRCF grants. Since 2005, 14 projects have been jointly funded using WRCP & SWG money. The \$543,118 provided by WRCP for these projects was matched with \$1,240,780 in SWG funds. With the increase in match for WRCF, we would expect to see an even greater leverage with SWG, as well as other sources of match, and consequently, more quality projects.

That being said, we are going to increase the match requirement for these grants from 10% to 50%. The match requirements for WRCF grants is currently only mentioned in one place, the WRCP grant application manual. It is not mentioned on any of the WRCP web pages or in the grant agreement. Consequently, when we change the match requirements from 10% to 50% this year, we only need to mention it in the manual. The manual will now read: A minimum 50% cash or in-kind match is required to demonstrate the applicant's serious commitment to the project. Cash match and non-cash match will count equally toward the match. Cash match must be a source of funds other than ESF or WRCF. Non-cash match is the performance, at no cost to the grantee, of a portion of the approved scope of work. The performance of this work must be documented, and must be in lieu of work otherwise charged to the grant. The two types of non-cash match are: (i) Donated service [professional service] (claimed at the firm's or individual's normal billing rate times the number of hours worked) and (ii) Volunteer service [non-specialized labor] (claimed at the normal hourly labor rate for the type of work performed times the number of hours worked). Grant terms of eighteen (18) months will remain in place.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 717.772.9084.

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